

**Chapter 21A.30**  
**DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS**  
**ANIMALS, HOME OCCUPATION, HOME INDUSTRY**

Sections:

- 21A.30.010 Purpose.
- 21A.30.020 Animal regulations - Small animals.
- 21A.30.030 Animal regulations - Livestock - Purpose.
- 21A.30.040 Animal regulations - Livestock - Densities. [Amended]
- 21A.30.045 Animal regulations - Livestock - Farm management plans. [Amended]
- 21A.30.060 Animal regulations - Livestock - Management standards. [Amended]
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NOTE: Sections amended are noted in brackets following the title.

1        SECTION 1. Ordinance 10870, Section 532, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.040 are each  
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3        **Animal regulations -- ~~((L))livestock - ~~((D))densities.~~~~** The raising, keeping, breeding or  
4 fee boarding of livestock are subject to K.C.C. chapter 11.04, Animal Control Regulations, and the  
5 following requirements:

6        A. The minimum lot size on which large livestock may be kept shall be ~~((20,000))~~ twenty  
7 thousand square feet ~~((, provided that the))~~ . The amount of site area available for use by the  
8 livestock may be less than ~~((20,000))~~ twenty thousand square feet ~~((and provided further that))~~ if  
9 the portion of the total lot area used for confinement or grazing meets the requirements of this  
10 section.

11        B.1. The maximum number of livestock shall be as follows:

12        ~~((1.))~~ a. Commercial dairy farms ~~((in full compliance with a Washington State~~  
13 ~~Department of Ecology NPDES general or special use permit as consistent with the permit~~  
14 ~~requirements. Otherwise, K.C.C. 21A.30.040B.3 applies. Commercial dairies shall have 5 years~~  
15 ~~from the adoption of this section to either comply with the state permit requirements or come into~~  
16 ~~compliance with Ordinance 11168.))~~ consistent with chapter 90.64 RCW and a farm management  
17 plan adopted in accordance with K.C.C.21A.30.045.

18        ~~((2.))~~ b. Six resident animal units per gross acre in stables, barns and other livestock  
19 operations with covered confinement areas, ~~((provided that))~~ if no more than three animal units per  
20 gross acre are allowed to use uncovered grazing or confinement areas on a full time basis, and the  
21 standards in K.C.C. 21A.30.060 are met or a farm management plan is implemented and  
22 maintained ~~((pursuant to Ordinance 11168; provided further that))~~ in accordance with K.C.C.

21A.30.045. ~~((h))~~ Higher densities may be allowed subject to the conditional use permit process to confirm compliance with the management standards. This conditional use permit process is not required for existing operations which operate with higher densities, ~~((provided the standards in Ordinance 11168 are met))~~ in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.30.060 or a farm management plan is implemented for such operations~~((.))~~;

~~((3. (a) For all large livestock not covered by paragraph 1. or 2. above,))~~ c. ~~((t))~~ Three animal units per gross acre of vegetated site area, provided that the standards in K.C.C. 21A.30.060 are met or a farm management plan is implemented and maintained ~~((pursuant to Ordinance 11168.))~~ in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.30.045; and

~~((Editor's Note: The following paragraph (a) (adopted by Ordinance 10870) was not deleted by Ordinance 11168 which adopted the immediately preceding paragraph (a))~~

~~— (a) if a farm management plan is implemented and maintained as or, in the alternative, all of the management standards of section K.C.C. 21A.30.060 are met, three horse, cows or similarly sized animals per gross acre of total site area, provided further that two ponies shall be counted as being equivalent to one horse and that miniature horses shall be treated as small livestock subject to paragraph 4. below.~~

~~((b) if paragraph (a) is not met,))~~ d. ~~((e))~~ One animal unit per two acres of vegetated area, ~~((provided that))~~ not to exceed a total of five animal units, if the standards for storage and handling of manure~~((, as set out))~~ in ~~((Section 3D of this section,))~~ K.C.C. 21A.30.060D are met~~((;))~~.

~~((4.))~~ 2. For purposes of ~~((these regulations))~~ this section, an animal unit shall consist of one adult horse or bovine, two ponies, five small livestock~~((;))~~ or equivalent thereof ~~((f))~~ excluding

sucklings~~((-), provided that))~~. ~~((m))~~Miniature horses and feeder calves ~~((f))~~up to one year of age~~((t))~~, shall be considered small livestock.

~~((5. The 1990 sensitive areas ordinance exemption from the fencing requirements for the Snoqualmie river floodplain shall continue in effect, provided that farm management plans which minimize livestock impacts on the Snoqualmie river are implemented for properties in the floodplain.))~~ (Ord. 11168 § 2, 1993: Ord. 11157 § 28, 1993: Ord. 10870 § 532, 1993).

SECTION 2. Ordinance 11168 Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.045 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

**Animal regulations -- ~~((L))~~livestock -- ~~((F))~~farm management plans.**

A. To achieve the maximum density allowances using a farm management (conservation) plan, the plan must be developed according to the following criteria:

1. The plan must be developed by the King Conservation District, unless the King County agriculture commission certifies other qualified persons or companies to prepare such plans. Certified Washington state Department of Ecology nutrient management plans that are consistent with all of the criteria of this section may be substituted for farm management plans for commercial dairy farms. Commercial dairy farms that do not have approved plans shall meet the requirements of K.C.C. 21A.30.060;

2. The plan shall require site-specific management measures for minimizing non~~((-))~~point pollution from agricultural activities including but not limited to:

- a. livestock watering, wetland and ~~((stream corridor))~~ aquatic area management;
- b. grazing and pasture management;
- c. confinement area management; and
- d. manure management;

3. The plan shall be implemented within a timeframe established in the plan and maintained such that non-point pollution attributable to livestock-keeping is minimized~~((:))~~; and

4. A monitoring plan shall be developed as part of the farm management plan, and implemented to demonstrate no significant impact to water quality and salmonid fisheries habitat. Monitoring data shall be available to the King County agriculture commission.

B. Farm management plans ~~((FMPs)))~~ shall, at a minimum:

1. Generally seek to achieve a twenty-five-foot buffer of diverse, mature vegetation between grazing areas and the ordinary high water mark of all ~~((class 1 and 2 streams and))~~ type S and F waters including any naturally occurring pond and the wetland edge of any ~~((class 1 or 2))~~ category I, II or III wetland on the site, using buffer averaging where necessary to accommodate existing structures. No buffer for ~~((class 1 or 2 streams))~~ type S or F waters shall be less than ten feet. The plan must include best management practices ~~((which ))~~ that avoid having manure accumulate in or within ten feet of ~~((class 3 streams; provided that))~~ type N or O waters.

~~((f))~~ Forested lands being cleared for grazing areas shall comply with the ~~((sensitive areas ordinance setbacks for class 1, 2 and 3 streams and class 1 and 2 wetlands.))~~ critical area buffers in K.C.C. chapter 21A.24;

2. Assure that drainage ditches on the site do not channel animal waste to ~~((such streams))~~ aquatic area and wetlands~~((:))~~;

3. Achieve an additional twenty-foot buffer downslope of any confinement areas within two hundred feet of ~~((class 1 and 2 streams))~~ type S and F waters. This requirement may be waived for existing confinement areas on lots of two and one-half acres or less in size if

a. A minimum buffer of twenty-five feet of diverse, mature vegetation is achieved;

b. Manure within the confinement area is removed daily during the winter season ~~((f))~~ from October 15 to April 15~~((g))~~, and stored in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.30.060D; and

c. Additional BMPs, as recommended by the ~~((KCD))~~ King Conservation District, are implemented and maintained~~((-))~~; and

4. Include a schedule for implementation.

C. A copy of the final plans shall be provided to the clerk of the council within sixty days of completion.

D. The completed plan may be appealed to the zoning and subdivision examiner ~~((pursuant to the provisions of))~~ in accordance with K.C.C. 20.24.080. The appeal must be filed within thirty days of being received by the clerk. Appeals may be filed only by the property owner or four members of the King County agriculture commission. Any plan not appealed shall constitute prima facie evidence of compliance with the regulatory provisions of K.C.C. 9.12.035. (Ord. 14199 § 235, 2001: Ord. 11168 § 3, 1993).

SECTION 3. Ordinance 10870, Section 534, as amended, and K.C.C. 21A.30.060 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

**Animal regulations -- ~~((L))~~livestock - --~~((M))~~management standards.** Property owners with farms containing either large livestock at densities greater than ~~((+))~~ one animal unit per ~~((2))~~ two acres, ~~((and/))~~ or small livestock at densities greater than ~~((5))~~ five animals per acre, or both, are not required to follow an ~~((FMP))~~ farm management plan if ~~((said))~~ the owners adhere to the ~~((following))~~ management standards in subsections A through H of this section.

This section shall apply as long as farm practices do not result in violation of any federal, state or local water quality standards.

A. ~~((Livestock Watering, Wetland and Stream Corridor Management.))~~

To minimize livestock access to ~~((streams))~~ aquatic areas, property owners shall utilize the following livestock watering options:

1. The preferred option shall be a domestic water supply, stock watering pond, roof runoff collection system, or approved pumped supply from the ~~((stream))~~ aquatic areas so that livestock are not required to enter ~~((streams))~~ aquatic areas for their water supply.

2. Livestock access to ~~((class 1 and 2 streams and))~~ type S and F waters, including their buffers shall be limited to ~~((stream))~~ crossing and watering points ~~((which))~~ that have been addressed by a crossing or watering point plan designed to SCS/~~((KCD))~~ King Conservation District specifications which shall prevent free access along the length of the ~~((streams))~~ aquatic areas.

a. Fencing shall be used as necessary to prevent livestock access to ~~((class 1 and 2 streams))~~ type S and F waters.

b. Bridges may be used, in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 21A, in lieu of ~~((stream))~~ crossings, ~~((provided that))~~ though piers and abutments shall not be placed within the ordinary high water mark or top-of-bank, whichever is greater. Bridges shall be designed to allow free flow of flood waters and shall not diminish ~~((the))~~ flood carrying capacity ~~((of the stream))~~; these bridges may be placed without a county building permit, ~~((provided that such))~~ but the permit waiver shall not constitute any assumption of liability by the county with regard to such bridge or its placement. The waiver of county building permit requirements does not constitute a waiver from other required agency permits.

B. ~~((Grazing and Pasture Management.))~~ 1. Existing grazing areas not addressed by K.C.C. chapter 21A.24 shall maintain a vegetative buffer of ~~((50))~~ fifty feet from any naturally occurring pond, wetland edge of a ~~((class 1 or 2))~~ category I, II, or III wetland ~~((t))~~, except those

wetlands meeting the definition of grazed wet meadows~~((+))~~, or the ordinary high water mark of a ~~((class 1 or 2 stream))~~ type S or F water.

2. Forested lands being cleared for grazing areas shall comply with ~~((the sensitive areas ordinance setbacks for class 1, 2 and 3 streams, and class 1 and 2 wetlands))~~ setbacks for type S, F or N waters and category I, II, and III wetlands set forth in K.C.C. chapter 21A.24.

3. The grazing area buffer may be reduced to ~~((25))~~ twenty-five feet where a ~~((25))~~ twenty-five foot buffer of diverse, mature vegetation already exists. This buffer reduction may not be used when forested lands are being cleared for grazing areas.

4. Fencing shall be used to establish and maintain the buffer.

5. Fencing installed ~~((pursuant to))~~ in accordance with the 1990 ~~((SAO))~~ Sensitive Area Ordinance prior to the effective date of the ordinance codified in this section at setbacks other than those specified in paragraphs B1 and B2 shall be deemed to constitute compliance with those requirements.

6. Grazing areas within ~~((200))~~ two hundred feet of a ~~((class 1 or 2 stream))~~ type S or F water or category I, II, or III wetland shall not be plowed during the rainy season ~~((f))~~ from October 1 through April ~~((15))~~ 30.

7. Grazing areas may extend to the property line, provided that ~~((class 1 or 2 streams and))~~ type S or F waters and category I, II, and III wetlands adjacent to the property line are buffered in accordance with ~~((K.C.C. 21A.30-060))~~ subsections B.1, ((B))2 or ((( )))3 of this section.

C. ~~((Confinement Area Management.))~~ 1. In addition to the buffers in subsection B.1 and ~~((B))2~~ ~~((above))~~ of this section, confinement areas located within ~~((200))~~ two hundred feet of any ~~((class 1 or 2 streams))~~ type S or F waters, wetlands or drainageways shall:



a. Have a ~~((20))~~ twenty-foot-wide vegetative filter strip downhill from the confinement area, consisting of heavy grasses or other ground cover with high stem density and ~~((which))~~ that may also include tree cover;

b. Not be located in any ~~((class 1 or 2 stream))~~ type S or F waters or wetland buffer area required by the ~~((sensitive))~~ critical areas ordinance in effect at the time the confinement area is built, or within ~~((50))~~ fifty feet of any naturally occurring pond, wetland edge of any ~~((class 1 or 2))~~ category I, II or III wetland or the ordinary high water mark of any ~~((class 1 or 2 stream))~~ type S or F water. Fencing shall be used to establish and maintain the buffer except where existing natural vegetation is sufficient to exclude livestock from the buffer. Existing confinement areas ~~((which))~~ that do not meet these requirements shall be modified as necessary to provide the buffers specified ~~((herein))~~ in this section within five years of the effective date of the ordinance codified in this section, ~~((provided further that))~~ though the footprint of existing buildings need not be so modified; and

c. Have roof drains of any buildings in the confinement area diverted away from the confinement area.

2. Confinement areas may extend to the property line, ~~((provided that streams))~~ if aquatic areas and wetlands adjacent to the property line are buffered in accordance with K.C.C. 21A.30.060C.1.

~~D. ((Manure Management.))~~ 1. Manure storage areas shall be managed as follows:

a. Surface flows and roof runoff shall be diverted away from manure storage areas~~((-))~~;

b. ~~((During the winter months (October 15 to April 15), a))~~ All manure stockpiled within ~~((200))~~ two hundred feet uphill of ~~((any class 1 or 2 stream or))~~ the ordinary high water

mark of a type S or F water or the edge of a category I, II or III wetland shall either be covered in a manner that excludes precipitation and allows free flow of air to minimize fire danger~~((;))~~ or~~((;~~ in the alternative, ~~shall~~) be placed in an uncovered concrete bunker or manure lagoon or held for pickup in a dumpster, vehicle or other facility designed to prevent leachate from reaching any ~~((streams or any class 1 or 2 wetlands))~~ aquatic area or wetland. Concrete bunkers shall be monitored quarterly for the first two years after installation, then annually unless problems were identified in the first two years, in which case quarterly monitoring shall continue and appropriate adjustments shall be made~~((-))~~;

c. Manure shall be stored in a location that avoids having runoff from the manure enter ~~((streams))~~ aquatic areas or wetlands. Manure piles shall ~~((not))~~ neither be closer than ~~((50))~~ one hundred feet uphill from any wetland edge, the ordinary high water mark of any ~~((stream))~~ aquatic area, or any ditch to which the topography would generally direct runoff from the manure, nor within any ~~((stream))~~ aquatic area buffer. The location may be reduced to no closer than fifty feet if the manure pile is part of an active compost system that is located on an impervious surface to prevent contact with the soil and includes a leachate containment system.

2. Manure shall be spread on fields only during the growing season, and not on saturated or frozen fields.

E. ~~((Noxious Weeds.))~~ None of ~~((these))~~ the standards in this section shall preclude the removal of noxious weeds~~((, provided that such))~~ if the removal is achieved without the use of chemicals or mechanical methods ~~((which))~~ that would be damaging to ~~((stream))~~ aquatic area banks or other vegetation in the buffer.

F. For purposes of this section, "buffer maintenance" means allowing vegetation in the buffer ~~((which))~~ that provides shade for the ~~((stream))~~ aquatic area or acts as a filter for storm

205 water entering the ~~((stream))~~ aquatic area, other than noxious weeds, to grow to its mature  
206 height; ~~((provided that))~~ though grasses in the buffer may be mowed but not grazed. Grading in  
207 the buffer is allowed only for establishment of watering and crossing points, or for other  
208 activities permitted ~~((pursuant to the sensitive areas ordinance))~~ in accordance with K.C.C.  
209 chapter 21A.24, with the appropriate permits.

210 G. Properties ~~((which))~~ that have existing fencing already installed at distances other  
211 than those specified in these standards, and for which farm management plans have been  
212 developed based on the existing fencing locations, shall be deemed to be in compliance with the  
213 fencing requirements of these standards.

214 H. Buffer areas shall not be subject to public access, use or dedication by reason of the  
215 establishment of such buffers. (Ord. 12786 § 4, 1997: Ord. 11168 § 4, 1993: Ord. 10870 § 534,  
216 1993).

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